

CONFETTI STUDENT MAGAZINE

wire

CONFETTI X

NEW ESPORTS COMPLEX

INDUSTRY WEEK

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

JON BURGERMAN

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

SPR/SUM 2021



 **confetti**
Institute of creative technologies

PART OF



Nottingham Trent
University



wire

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Hello.

Your annual issue of Wire magazine is here - and we take a look back at the past 12 months and the impacts of a global pandemic on our student community.

If you're on the fence about joining us this September, we hope that seeing what Confetti has to offer in this packed issue will help you make the right decision for you.

Happy reading!

The Confetti Team



Front cover: Jon Burgerman
 Top left: Confetti X (pg. 34)
 Bottom left: Alex Coleman zine work (pg. 28)
 Right: Metronome - BBC Introducing Live Session (pg. 14)

Confetti Industry Week 2021

A FIRST IN CONFETTI HISTORY

2020 – and 2021 – have been years like no other for students at Confetti, not to mention young people across the country. So it was fitting to host an Industry Week that was the first of its kind too!

Our 15th Industry Week – the biggest annual event in our student calendar – went ‘virtual’. Confetti’s brilliant technical and education teams worked together to live-stream events, beaming in guest speakers from across the globe. Locations included London, Manchester, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Dublin, Seattle, Athens, Germany and even Auckland in New Zealand!

With 87 industry specialists, 73 sessions and over 136 hours of inspiring content, the week was a resounding success, with students showing their appreciation during the sessions and on social media, and we were lucky enough to catch a few of the talks ourselves.

Check out our interviews with artist Jon Burgerman over the next pages, and read about Susan Rogers’ impressive career working with Prince...



IW21

OnDemand

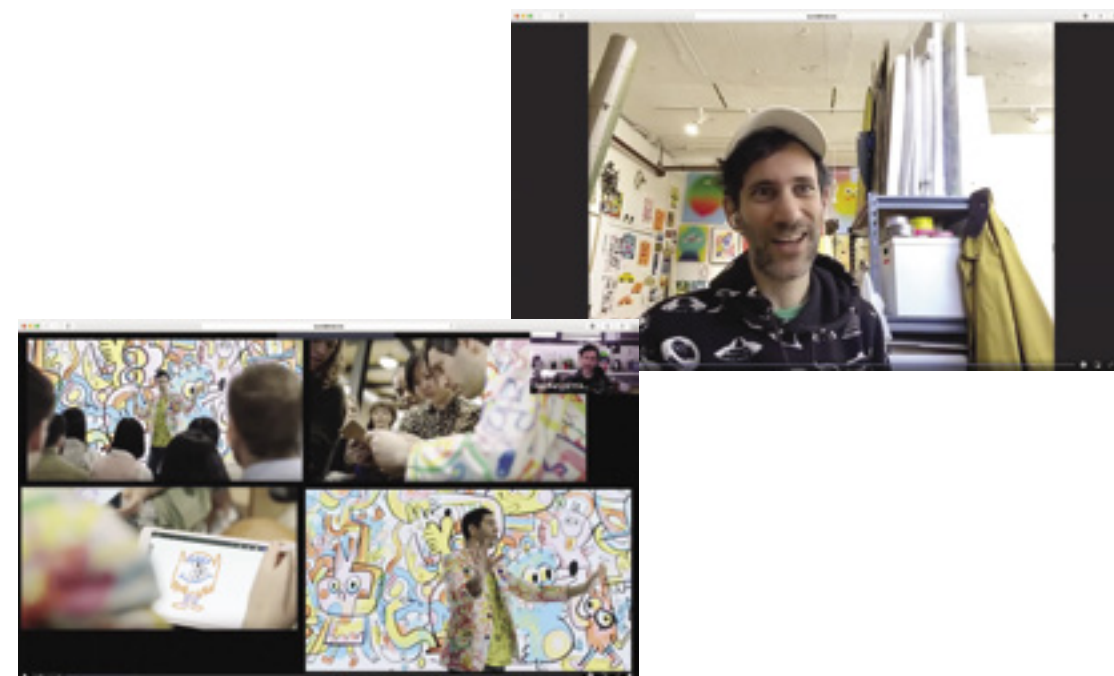
This year, we've introduced a new feature to make our Industry Week as interactive as possible, offering students the chance to watch talks back. Not only this, but we have a collection of live sessions from previous years available for all to enjoy.

Want to watch some of our previous Industry Week guests delivering some great sessions?

Head to iw.confetti.ac.uk



Jon Burgerman



This Brooklyn-based artist started out his artistic career studying at Nottingham Trent University. Hear all about his journey from uni to working as a professional artist - and what it really takes to succeed in the creative industries.

Hi Jon, thanks for chatting to us today! You're an NTU alumni yourself, and a former Alumnus of the Year (2016) – how did you find studying in Nottingham?

I had a really wonderful time – Nottingham was a great city for being free and independent. The music that was happening at the time was really fun, and to be an art student in Nottingham was great. I hope everyone has an enjoyable time being a student – but I know the last year has been tough for a lot of students, which is heart-breaking really.

Can you tell us how you transitioned from a graduate to an established artist? How were the first few years?

I graduated in 2001 and a lot of my friends moved to London, but I stayed in Nottingham and it ended up being a great decision. The most valuable thing any of us have – particularly when starting out – is time to make things, and you can't do that if you're working 24/7 to pay rent. In Nottingham,

I was able to do a part-time job and every moment I wasn't there, I was working on my own stuff, emailing people and trying to get my work out there. Nowadays people are using social media to do the same thing! With a bit of research, industry 'sleuthing' and lots of hard work, you start to get places.

Left: Photo credit, Catalina Kulczar
Right top & bottom: Confetti Industry Week 2021 live stream talk



Top: Window display – Urban Outfitters in Leicester, bottom: Selfless Selfie event workshop, right: Confetti Industry Week 2021 live stream

“Process isn’t that important – ideas and stories are important.”



What drew you to find a home in NYC?

I moved to America because I wanted a change, and I’d been going there for work/having exhibitions in New York and it’s a lot of fun! I made friends here, I’d been in Nottingham for 10 years and I was ready for a change. It was a time when my work was also changing – so the move was invigorating for me!

Your portfolio and the projects you’ve worked on are really extensive, which has seen your work pop up across the globe. If you could collaborate with any brand, who would you pick and why?

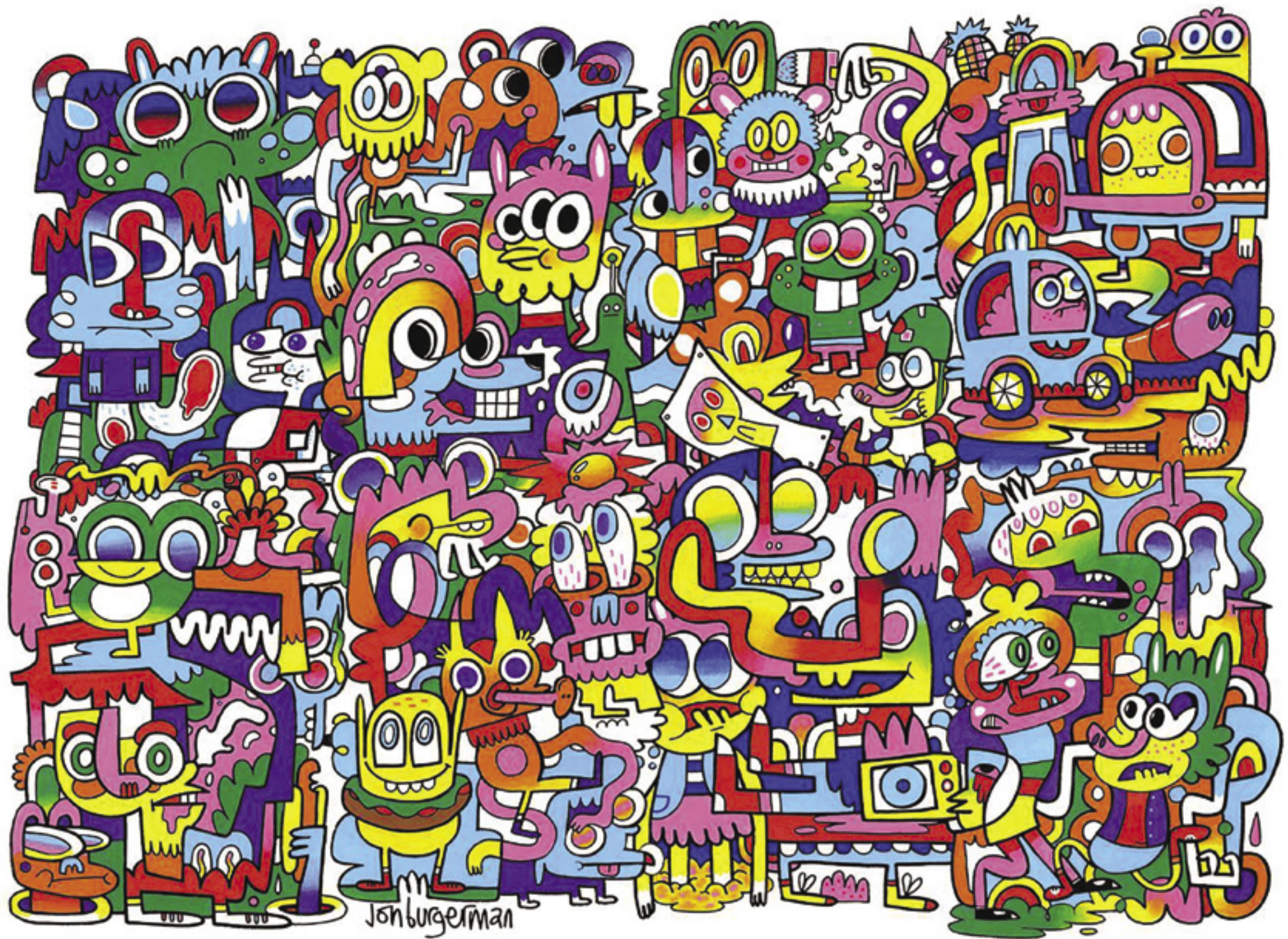
I would love to do a video game with Nintendo that would be fun – I like Nintendo because they’re a big company but it seems like they innovate with play and fun, and often the idea is to be as inclusive as possible.

Even when you buy one of their games there are often modes which make it fun for people who aren’t very good at games to enjoy, so I think a lot of their values are cool.

If you could give our students one piece of advice about becoming a successful artist, what would that be?

Do your thing, be yourself – and if the light comes onto you and people are interested, that’s great. But if not, at least you’re still doing what you want to do.

There’s no point going down the same path other people have gone down. The advice I received when I was a student was ‘don’t follow the trends, because then you’re always behind’.



Susan Rogers

A Life in Sound

Purple Rain – we all know it, we’ve all sung along (badly) to it in the car.

But did you know that the recording engineer behind it was Susan Rogers, an LA resident and Professor at Berklee College of Music?



Susan had an interest in music from an early stage, and moved into the music industry in the 70s with a move to Los Angeles; an epicentre for a lot of music being made at the time.

When asked how it felt to enter the music industry when she did, she explained: “Starting out in music was daunting, but it felt right – so I persisted.”

During her career, she worked with a number of artists – Barenaked Ladies, Jeff Black, David Byrne – and the world-renowned Prince.

Visiting Confetti Industry Week 2021 ‘through the ether’ from her studio in sunny LA, Susan spoke about what it was really like to work with the visionary artist.

“Prince would soundcheck for four hours, just because he wanted to play – many artists will just do half an hour before their set!”

According to Susan, after he’d then played his full set to an audience, he would either go to a club and play an after party, or the pair would go to a recording studio and work all night. In fact, he was so committed to making

tracks, he had mobile recording facilities wherever he went in the world. Now that’s dedication!

Much of working in the music industry came down to problem solving, according to Susan; something she was clearly very good at.

But the music industry wasn’t where Susan wanted to be forever, and in 2000 she decided to leave to pursue an academic career, earning a PhD in Music Cognition and Psychoacoustics from McGill University just ten years later. Much of her work looks at what it is about music that makes people tick – the fine balance between the motor, emotion and cognitive systems; music making us dance, cry and think.

Her advice for young people starting out?

“You can’t see your future, so don’t worry about it. Look inside yourself instead and you’ll know what to do.”

Between some amazing anecdotes, some truly inspiring academic research and some motivational advice that Susan shared during her virtual visit to Confetti – it’s safe to say, we’d like to hear from her again in the future!

How Metronome adapted to the pandemic

Last year was tough for many industries, but particularly for live entertainment. Venues were told to shut, audiences were told to stay at home, and performers were having to replace a real life crowd with their laptop screens.

But despite this, Metronome has persevered and showed resilience through these testing times.

Metronome joined forces with Nottstopping Festival in May 2020 to broadcast out performances from the likes of Snapped Ankles and Rob Green, as well as Q&As with Stephen Graham, Jeremy Pritchard and more.

The festival not only treated people to some welcome entertainment during the first lockdown, but also helped to raise funds for frontline workers.

At the end of July, Metronome and Just the Tonic hosted a pilot comedy event with the backing of the Government. The venue was able to put its new Covid-safety measures into action, with reduced capacity,

improved ventilation and temperature checks on entry. The audience was treated to sets from Russell Howard, Ed Byrne, Daisy Earle, Scott Bennett and Quincy; a pretty great line-up for a 'welcome back' event!

The end of September brought the return of live music to Metronome – at last! BBC Music Introducing in the East Midlands presented Sian, Celestines and George Gretton who performed in front of a reduced capacity, seated audience. However short-lived due to regulations changing again soon after, it was great to have live music and a live audience back in Metronome.



Nottingham Poetry Festival moved online for the first time with the help of Metronome. Acclaimed poets like Lemn Sissay, Anthony Anaxagorou and Henry Normal performed for an audience who were able to join in with hashtags and stars replacing clicks and claps – and it was all free!

The venue still managed to get festive in December too, with a virtual gig by Unknown Era complete with Santa suits and Christmas trees, and James Burt's single launch. The festivities didn't stop there with Confetti students live-streaming their annual Christmas party on YouTube.

Into 2021 and Metronome Sessions – a series of virtual events – launched in February, with musicians, poets and producers putting on masterclasses and live performances for the general public. To date, events have included Q&As with industry professionals and streamed performances with music artists like Natalie Duncan and Ajay Henry.

These lockdown events gave opportunities to Confetti students to get some hands-on experience too. Music Technology tutor, Rob Baldock, expressed how important this was for the students.

“Our students have been able to take part in some of these live broadcasts, supporting our in-house technical team as well as delivering their own productions. New ways of working and skills have been developed which they will be able to take with them into whatever the industry looks like once we're able to return to live events as we know them.”

So despite a sensationally strange year, Metronome has kept up and delivered some amazing events – virtually – for audiences around Nottingham and further afield. Before too long, Metronome will be able to entertain live audiences once again – so make sure you keep up-to-date with new announcements on their website and social media channels.

Left page: Natalie Duncan performs on the Metronome stage,
Right page, right: BBC Introducing at Metronome,
Right page, left: Ed Byrne performs at the Government-backed Just The Tonic event

Confetti Student of the Year



Ryan holding Degree Showcase Student of the Year certificate

Each year at our Degree Showcase, we award one student with the accolade of Student of the Year. Our 2020 winner was second-year BSc (Hons) Television Production Technology student Ryan Halliday.

We caught up with him about this achievement, as well as his time at Confetti and aspirations for his future career.

Where are you from? And how did you end up at Confetti?

I am from Lowestoft, Suffolk, a small coastal town – the most easterly point in the UK. From a young age I was always interested in current technologies and the act of creating artwork with them. I often found myself on my parents' computer creating short movies on Movie Maker and pieces of 'art' on Paint. I went on to study Media and Art subjects at High School and Sixth Form which led me to Confetti.

What have the past two years been like?

The last two years have really helped me narrow down what kind of career I would like to go into and throughout I have been able to gain an abundance of first-hand experience. The great thing about being on a creative course, is not just the fact that you can make new friends, but you can make creative contacts that will help you down the line; everyone has different tastes and formats and it's very inspirational being in a room full of creatives willing to learn. I love Nottingham, coming from a relatively small town I thought I would feel lost, but Nottingham really does feel like a second home. Nottingham has everything you could want, and the city is actively evolving. With numerous events travelling through, there is always something to do.

What's the course like?

Going through school and college, it always felt like there was little opportunity for my own input, the same thing happens each teaching year and nothing changes. However, it was completely different with this course – Kris Hayden (tutor) was always happy to hear your opinion and would take everything you said on board.

Over the years I've had a lot of fun with the learning style, it's always hands-on which I really benefit from, and with events such as Industry Week it really helps you to see what the future in your industry would be like.

Have you been able to benefit from lots of 'Do it for Real' opportunities?

The Do it for Real ethos that Confetti has really boosted my learning experience. It's one thing to learn about a subject and do practicals within class, but to actually have first-hand experience available throughout the year, not only practising skills learnt, but learning new skills from professionals too, is great. The confidence gained from these experiences have really prepared me for the next steps after Confetti; I can confidently go into media production, knowing how it will operate.

How does it feel to be crowned Student of the Year?

Amazing, it's such an honour to be crowned the Confetti Student of the Year, and such a nice surprise after a stressful year. It's boosted my confidence and really enforced feelings that I am doing the right thing and the achievement alone looks so good on a CV. I am really happy and honoured to have received it.

What will you spend the £1k on?

This year I have two modules larger than the others, a 45-minute TV drama and my dissertation. The voucher will go to this if I need to buy anything, which helps a lot with my dissertation; I can take it up to the next level. After this, I am likely to treat myself, for those items you question when they are in your basket, but you know you really want them – I'm clicking purchase, no questions.

Any advice to budding TV students thinking about going to uni?

Go for it! Whether you have a vast amount of knowledge or very little, the course caters to the whole scale. The learning environment is great, and it breaks away from the traditional desk learning you might have experienced in previous institutions. There really is not anything like studying TV, you learn a lot of things that can be used in other aspects of your life.



Ryan and peers on location shoot

“ There really is not anything like studying TV, you learn a lot of things that can be used in other aspects of your life.”

ELGAR ROOM



From touring to teaching

We caught up with our Music Performance tutor Naim Cortazzi, getting to know more about his life before Confetti and how his jam-packed industry background flows into the classroom when he teaches.

Right: Naim performing at Splendour Festival

Where did your passion come from for music?

My love for music really went to another level when I formed a band at school and we tried emulating our musical heroes...it didn't go so well! However, I never gave up and each setback made me more determined to get better. Going to lots of gigs and being involved with the local music scene was really foundational. I started to understand more about what it takes to become a practicing musician by being surrounded by working musicians and techs.

Tell us about your music career before teaching?

I made some lifelong friends through the local music scene in Leicester and this led me to working in various clubs as a sound engineer and then having the contacts to promote, record and perform my own music. This grew to the stage where my music was getting played on the radio and we were playing some great gigs around the country. I tried my hand in a lot of careers within the industry and made a living from touring, recording, selling music and of course working for other artists as a recording engineer and live engineer. I did a very intense six years of solid touring and then wanted to come home and give something back to the community, whilst living a more 'normal' life!

I worked with a charity group bringing music opportunities to disadvantaged youth in Leicester and this blossomed into becoming a qualified teacher. The strange thing is that when I started teaching I thought my music career would fade but

instead it got even more busy - my band Uncle Frank got signed to a record deal and I become very busy working on that as well as teaching!

What would a typical day touring look like?

Most of the time on tour is obviously travelling from one place to another. Its journey is its own epic adventure.

Then there's the surreal two hours before the concert where you are getting ready, having something to eat and making sure people on the guest list can get into the show. That's always the nerve-racking bit. When the show starts there's always an intense feeling of relief after all the anticipation and the show always flies past too quickly. Every gig is different and poses its own challenges but you try to learn from each one.

After a show its always a good idea to meet with the audience and bask in the glory a bit before the pack down of the equipment. I always like to set up and pack down my own gear, this is just a habit from all the years I spent as a guitar and drum tech.

Tell us about some artists you've worked with and what that experience was like?

Happy Mondays - absolute mayhem and drama, but an unforgettable experience, so much fun.

Fun Lovin' Criminals - work hard/play hard glamorous and awe inspiring, everything I dreamed about what a world tour was like became a reality by touring with this band....very hard to beat an experience like that

Beverly Knight - a true professional. Disciplined and commanded a level of perfection with every show. A huge learning experience for me.

Merz - a creative genius but largely critically successful rather than commercially. All hands on decks, driving, tour managing, planning, setting up, packing down, selling merchandise. A tough intense experience but cut my teeth in the industry learning about what it takes with this artist. A relentless but rewarding experience.

Uncle Frank - amazingly fun and creative, I get to call the shots with my music partner.. as it's our band!

Radio Riddler - First Class travel, arena gigs, catering, huge dressing rooms and rider. What's not to like?

How does your creative background cross over into the classroom?

I think I'm quite an animated passionate teacher, I like picking up an instrument and getting involved with the students group work and pushing them to higher levels of performance.

Best advice you can give students for being successful in the industry?

Never, ever stop.



One to beat



Our alumni have moved into some pretty exciting jobs and industries over the years. We caught up with Ben Tennett, who turned his passion for drumming into his career, and now works as a professional technician, touring around the world with some huge bands.

When he's not on the road, he teaches and offers technical services from his workshop as well as playing whenever he gets a chance!



BEN TENNETT

What did you study at Confetti?

I studied the Level 3 Technical Events course.

What do you do as a career now?

Since leaving Confetti, I have developed my own drum services business which incorporates all my work from playing and teaching, to heading out on tour around the UK/Europe with bands such as Anteros, Easy Life and more.

What are some of your highlights – any particular gigs, festivals or events you've played at?

For me a massive career highlight is being fortunate enough to play/work at Rock City a couple of times. It's an indescribable feeling as you head up the stairs to the stage looking at all the photos from previous bands that have played there. I love that venue.

Another highlight for me would have to be chatting over a drink with JR Robinson in a hotel bar in London. JR has played on so many countless hits with artists such as Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston, Chaka Khan, Diana Ross and so many more. A real hero of mine!

Would you say studying at Confetti helped you get to where you are today?

100%! I learnt so much at Confetti that really set me up for where I am today. More importantly, it was the encouragement

from my tutors to pursue opportunities as they came to me and actively encouraged me to go out and put my practice to use. I will always be massively grateful for my time at Confetti.

What are your plans for the future?

My plan for the future is to develop my drum services business. I have just launched an online site (Rockin' Robins plus+) which offers advice for drummers, and features other guests from the industry, allowing them to share their insights. Recently, we had a feature from Matty Brown who headlined the Pyramid Stage with Stormzy at Glastonbury. I've got some seriously incredible drummers lined up for this which is exciting. I always have things that I am working away on, keep an eye on my socials and website for what is happening.

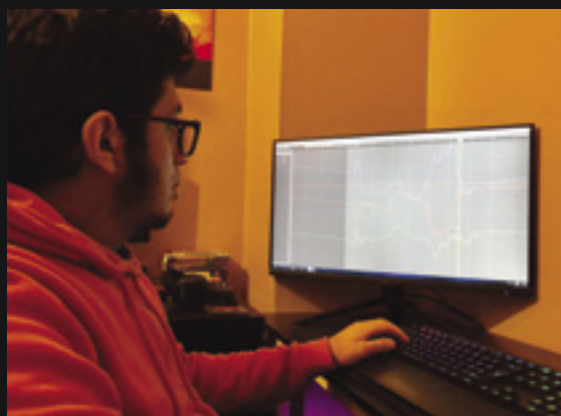
Any advice for our current music and events students?

My advice would be firstly to always keep going. You never know what is coming your way!

Secondly, and this isn't specific for musicians – but be mindful of your output online. We live in a world where Instagram is the modern CV and it can be super beneficial but also super detrimental.

Think before you post and never share something you wouldn't want a future employer to see. Boring but true!

A graduate's journey into the games industry



Games graduate Aqib Khalifa spills the beans on his exciting new career and how he got there from Confetti.

SHORT PROFILE

Current occupation & company:
Quality assurance tester at Deep Silver Dambuster Studios

Confetti course studied:
BSc (Hons) Games Production

Year of graduation:
2020

Where did your passion for games come from?

I like telling this story - so back in 2013, I was watching E3 and they showed the trailer for Destiny 1. Seeing the game developers speak so enthusiastically about their games ignited my passion to study games at a higher level. After watching the trailer, I always knew I'd love to work for a game studio and then showcase the game on a big stage.

What made you choose to study at Confetti?

After finding Confetti online and seeing that the games course offered what I was after, I put Confetti as my first choice on my UCAS application. After visiting the open day I was set on coming to Confetti, Gin Rai, the course leader, was great at presenting the course; the course content was relevant; and I appreciated the range of games development areas we'd explore.

What skills did you learn at Confetti that you use in your job now?

We had a few group projects at Confetti which reinforced my ability to work as a team effectively which is very important in my role at Dambuster, and needless to say, the technical skills learnt over the three years. If I can give any advice it's to take notes! No matter how menial you think they are, at some point you'll find them useful.

How did your Confetti course prepare you for working in the industry?

The fact I was taught the different areas of game development prepared me a lot. When I started working at Dambusters, I wasn't surprised at things like game lifecycles or how to use a specific program. During my first Industry Week at Confetti, I attended a workshop with Victoria Van Garrett - a QA Tester (and former Confetti student herself!). We were introduced to QA testing, the role and workflow practices, which really helped in my current role.



If I can give any advice it's to take notes! No matter how menial you think they are, at some point you'll find them useful."

How did you start your career/working at Deep Silver?

After I handed in my last piece of work I started applying for jobs. After seeing the position at Deep Silver I spent most of the night updating my CV and writing a cover letter - which paid off. Being offered the job was a joyous moment, simply because I managed to get a job at a game studio right after graduating!

What does a typical day in the office look like?

From getting into the studio I jump right into the daily smoke tests followed by verification testing and finally more specific game

checks. It's important to keep an open mind and to be patient - if you can do this, then you get to experience the joys of QA testing.

For me, the coolest thing is I am a part of a game studio, I am one of the many individuals working at Dambuster. I think it is cool that I get to work with people who also have a passion for gaming.

What are your plans for your future career?

I'd like to move into animation. I enjoyed studying motion capture at Confetti, especially the equipment! So hopefully I'll be able to further my career into that sector in the future.

Students design for STENCIL agency

If you study at Confetti, there is one phrase you will hear more than any other... Do it for Real. We pride ourselves on offering students real-life experiences across the creative industries.

Despite lockdown restrictions, some of our students have been completing remote work placements for local design agency, STENCIL.

Managing Director of STENCIL, Andy Afford, has been impressed with the students' work, and has grown accustomed to the new ways of working this pandemic has thrown our way:

"This is the second year we've worked with Confetti, and this year we've been working remotely for the most part which has made us, out of necessity, even more organised. I'd also say that it has really given us the chance to understand this new world of work better. This sense of blended employment – some remote, some in-office – will become increasingly the norm. Confetti's

fabulous students have allowed us the opportunity of giving it a good road test."

Lauren Squires, Course Leader for FdA Graphic Design at Confetti, explains how important experiences like this are for students looking to get into the world of work following their studies:

"Our FdA students have been on their work placements with STENCIL since September and have found the experience to be invaluable. The work placement allows our students to apply the technical and theoretical skills



Illustrated by Kate Kusztal, Top: Challenge-trg lorry on the road, Left: Map, Right Challenge-trg Christmas social media post



Music Producer icons - illustrated by Ben Hunter

they have acquired on the course into the real world of graphic design. The placement has given students an amazing opportunity to develop their technical graphic design skills through working on live briefs for a range of clients.

So what did the students think of their placements?

Molly Bloodworth is a Level 3 Graphics & Digital Design student who is taking part in the T Level Industry Work Placement Pilot, where she is participating in a 45-day placement that takes place for two days a week over a six month period.

Molly said: "I'm really enjoying my placement; the varied projects I'm working on gives me a real insight into the industry and working environment. During lockdown, the way people work has changed. By working remotely, it gives me a chance to be more independent with my designs and figure things out on my own but still have help when I need it, which I feel is a benefit."

Milly Matthews - studying the FdA course - explained that the placement has helped her "develop skills with hands-on experiences", and that the team at STENCIL have really helped support her during the past year's difficult lockdowns.



The Nottingham Council House - illustrated by Milly Matthews



Work produced by Milly Matthews, Molly Bloodworth and Amir Pourghoureian

Showcasing Student Success



Frank Siejek, BSc (Hons) VFX Production

Degree Showcase

Last year over 80 degree students showcased their amazing work at our online Degree Showcase 2020. Have a look through some of the impressive pieces produced.

James Hujwan

Games Art student James produced this art piece which was influenced by recommended artists.

Frank Siekjek

VFX production student Frank won the course's Best VFX Sequence Student of the Year award with this astonishing fully-animated creature!

Raymond Carter

VFX production student Raymond Carter created a 3D matte painting of a jungle temple.

Shane Le-Good

Games Technology student Shane's work was based on the Advanced Manufacturing Building in Nottingham, which has a unique modern design.

Film/TV

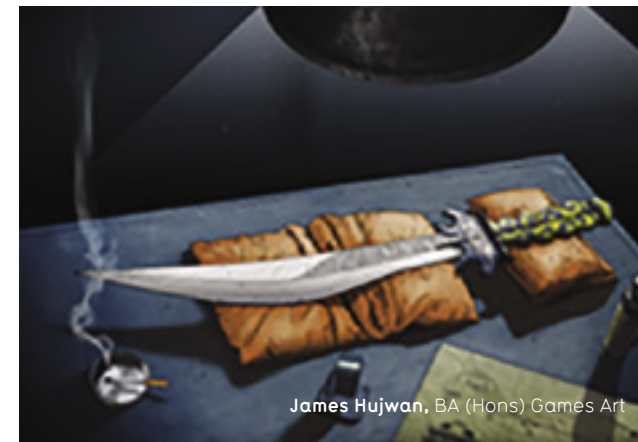
Scan the QR code here to check our film and TV students' exciting and original work!



Raymond Carter, BSc (Hons) VFX Production



Shane Le-Good, BSc (Hons) Games Technology



James Hujwan, BA (Hons) Games Art

Music

Scan the QR codes here to listen to our talented students' music.



Celebrate

Back in Autumn we celebrated our students' work with an online exhibition. Celebrate 2020 - as the name suggests - not only celebrated our students' work but also promoted, shared and wondered at the amazing work of our college-level students from the past year of their studies. Take a look at some of our students' work...

Music

Scan the QR codes here to listen to our talented students' music.



Chloe Harris, Graphic & Digital Design

Graphics & Digital Design student Chloe created Alice in Wonderland-themed playing cards in a bold style.



Ella Jenkinson, Games Art

Games Art students Ella created these art pieces from different projects at Confetti. Ella focuses on creature designs, which were created using the concept art pipeline.

Andrea Stamp,

VFX and Animation

VFX and Animation student Andrea created this piece after discovering her passion for both stop-motion animation and 3D texturing and lighting.



Alex Coleman, Graphics & Digital Design

Graphics & Digital Design student Alex created this zine/poster based on hip-hop subculture and its history.

Film and TV

Scan the QR code here to check our film and TV students' exciting and original work!



James Burt



THE DEBUT SINGLE FROM JAMES BURT

DANCE IN THE RAIN
OUT



jamesburtofficial.com

JamesBurtOfficialMusic

JamesBurtOfficial

James Burt

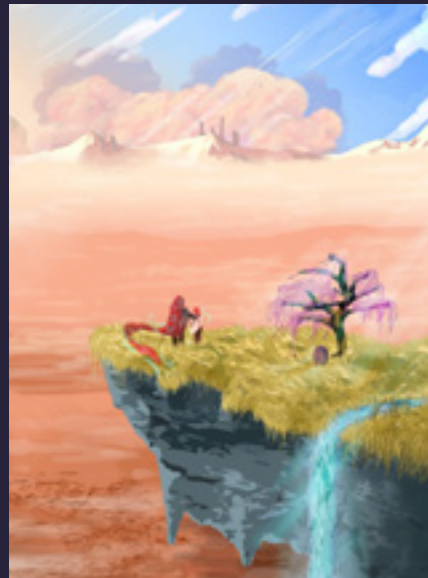


Student Spotlight

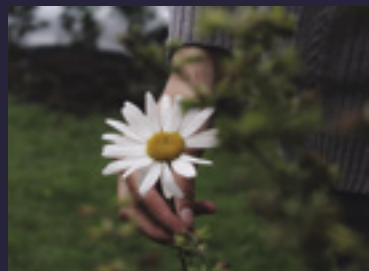
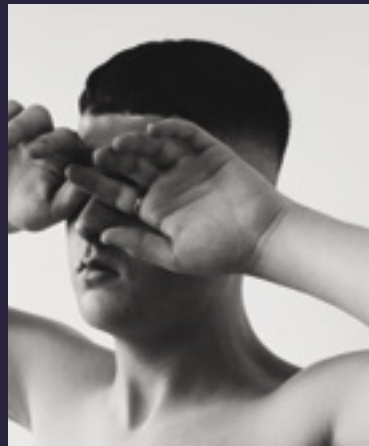


Bethany Agheda-Todd, Games Art L3

Our students never fail to impress us with their talent, which is why we like to showcase their work at every opportunity. View some of the amazing work they've recently been creating during their course and in their spare time.



William Monk, Games Art L3



Hannah Mitcheson, Film & Television Production L3



Tia Cox, Games L2

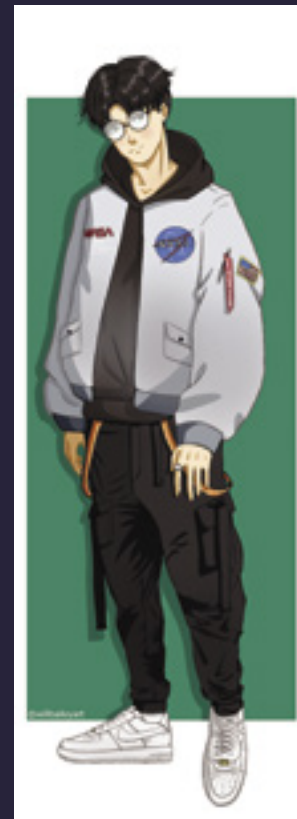
Ellie Furnell, Games Art L3



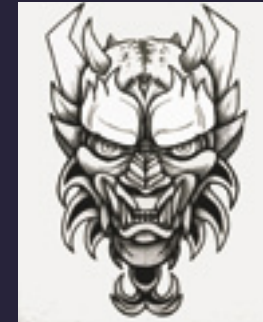
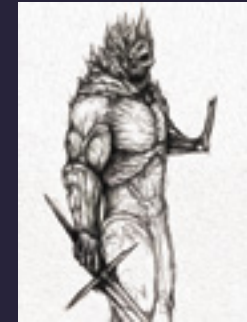
Jake Osborne, BSc (Hons) Television Production Technology



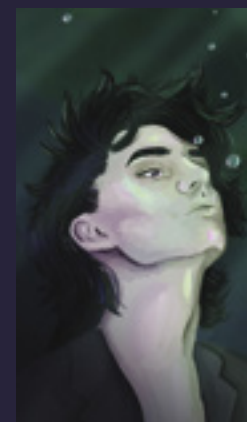
Tyler Gibson, Technical Events L3



Will Bailey, Games Art L3



Callum Jolliffe, Games Art L3



Emily Burge, Games Art L3



SCAN ME

Listen to our music students' tracks over on our Spotify



SCAN ME

View student video production work on our YouTube playlist

Living through the pandemic

The last year has proven to be changeable as we all navigated the Covid-19 pandemic. Students in particular faced many challenges, with study regularly moving from the campus, to their homes, to a mix of the two, and back home again. We spoke to some of our students to find out how they adapted, and what tips they've got to offer.



“If you need to talk to somebody, do. You’re never alone, even if it feels that way.”

April Cheung (Animation and VFX Year 2)

The downside of home studying is trying to find motivation at home and not being able to see classmates physically. But, I’ve had time to do more independent studies and understand what my strengths are creatively, and discovering my own style. The teachers are always there to help us with anything if we are stuck or have a question about a certain assignment.

I’d advise trying new things or skills that you haven’t done before to take your mind off work. Do something that inspires or makes you happy and be around people who you feel comfortable with via social media and video calls. If you need help or are struggling with something, talk to a teacher, classmate, friend, or someone in your family.

Will Saddington (Music Performance Year 3)

Studying from home was a huge shake-up. The lockdown was announced so abruptly, and everything had to change at the drop of a hat, but I think Confetti managed this really well and it was a smooth transition of the workflow to solely online with some great online events organised.

My advice would be if you need to talk to somebody, do. You’re never alone, even if it feels that way.

Tsvetina Doychever (VFX and Animation Level 3)

I found studying at home interminable and frustrating. The monotony of the days made it difficult to concentrate on one task. But I decided to try a bullet journal or planner, and I found one that has the perfect layout for me. I plan my month first, putting down key dates, deadlines for projects and appointments, and then I create a list each day with what I want to accomplish. Ticking the boxes off is satisfying and keeps me motivated.

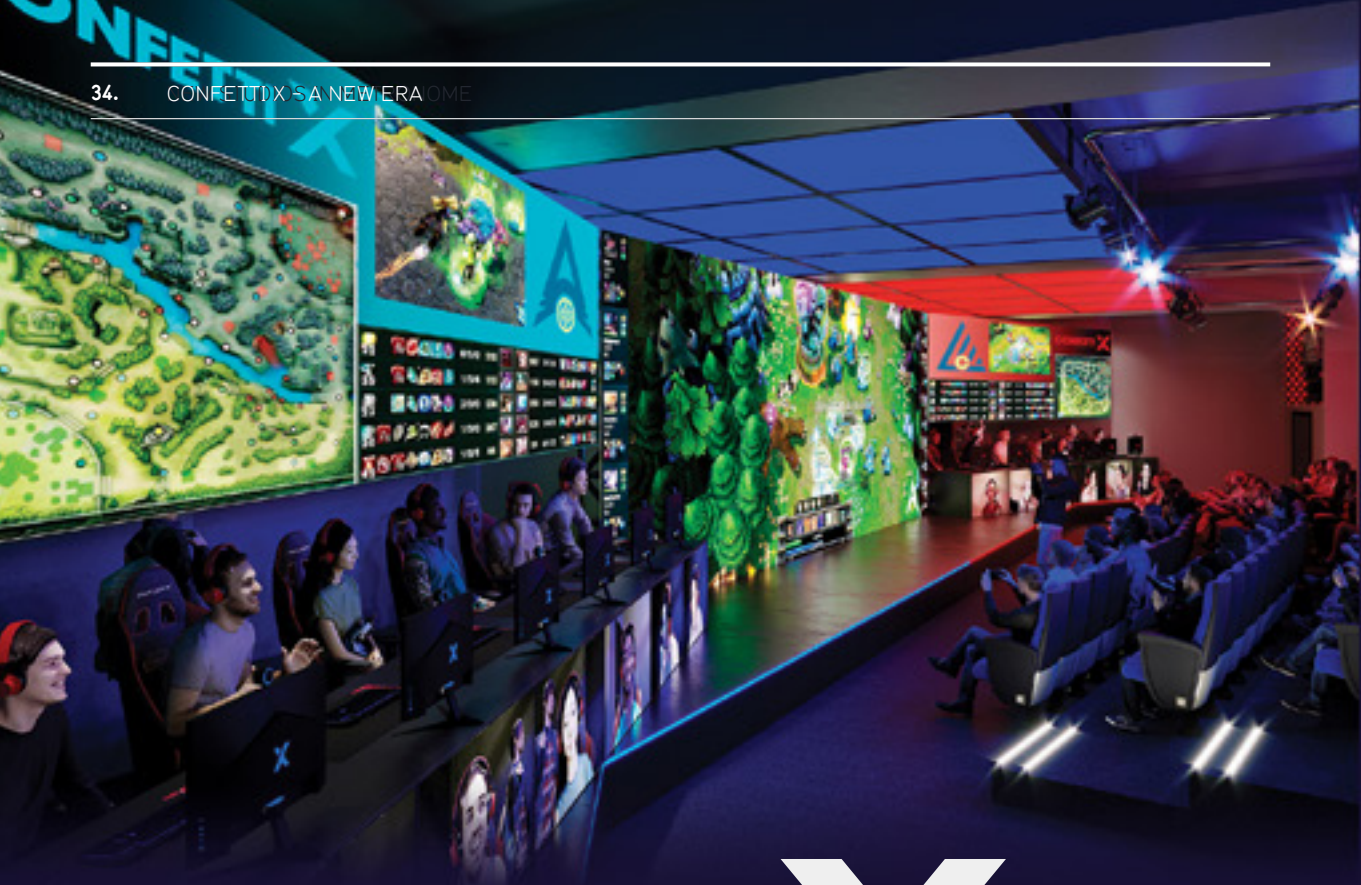
Another thing I do is put down a habit tracker in my planner. Each day, I aim to tick off as many positive habits as I can. For me, affirmations, gratitude and meditation are perfect ways to start of the day and feel more ready to work.

Amir Pourghoreiyan (Graphics and Digital Design Level 3)

Studying from home has been a challenge, I struggled with organisation and time management. But I set up an old PC just for work. It has made me more disciplined, there are more opportunities to get things done now I’ve got more time by myself.

To make lockdown work, you have to give up any ideas of ‘I can put it off’ or ‘what if they don’t like what I’ve done’ as it’s harder for teachers to intervene when you’re struggling, and steer you back onto the right path. Help them to help you and the year will go a lot smoother and be a lot less stressful.

If you are in need of support, don’t hesitate to talk to your Student Support Team here at Confetti, or visit togetherall.com.



CONFETTI X

A New Era



It's an exciting time for Confetti as we unveil our ambitious new plans to put Nottingham at the heart of the global esports industry.

Work is underway developing our dedicated esports complex, Confetti X.

The 14,000 sq. ft. venue will be where students studying esports really get to "do it for real".

Confetti X will be a fully flexible multi-events venue and content studio, and will allow us to host prestigious industry events such as the British Esports Championships and virtual live productions with Unreal Engine.

As well as a main auditorium and competition space with audience seating, it will feature social lounges, a green screen studio, broadcast production gallery, multiple shoutcaster and analyst rooms and training suites.

In short...it's going to be awesome.

Find out more about Confetti X and our esports college-level and degree courses on our website.

Left page: Confetti X stage, Confetti X main lounge
Right page: Shoutcaster, Production gallery, Confetti X main lounge, Audience seating



free student membership

- + **50% off gig tickets**
- + **Priority booking**
- + **Discounted drinks**

Visit metronome.uk.com to find out more about memberships and upcoming events.